

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Previously Presented) Device for the adjustment of the bit rate of a stream of contents as a function of processing capabilities of at least one receiver, said processing capabilities being the resources of said at least one receiver fit for processing the data received, said contents being transmitted by a sender to said receiver via a network, according to a communication protocol providing for a return transmission of reception data of said contents by said receiver to said sender, said device comprising :

- a module for inputting information relating to said capabilities,
- a module for estimating a required level for said bit rate at least as a function of said information,
- and a module for writing stream adjustment cues that is intended to write said adjustment cues for return transmission with said reception data to said sender, said adjustment cues being capable of bringing about a modification of said bit rate in relation to said required level,

wherein said communication protocol providing for a return transmission to said sender of at least one parameter of the protocol normally targeted at conditions of communication of said contents in said network between said sender and said receiver, the writing module is intended to modify said parameter in such a way as to use it to transmit said adjustment cues.

2. (Previously Presented) Adjustment device according to Claim 1, wherein said communication protocol is the RTCP protocol.

3. (Previously Presented) Adjustment device according to Claim 1, wherein said parameter of the protocol is intended to serve to calculate a round trip transmission delay between said sender and said receiver.

4. (Previously Presented) Adjustment device according to Claim 3, wherein said parameter of the protocol comprises a delay introduced at said receiver between a moment of reception of said contents and a moment of sending of said reception data by said receiver.

5. (Withdrawn) Adjustment device according to Claim 1, wherein said parameter of the protocol comprises a contents loss rate.

6. (Previously Presented) Adjustment device according to Claim 1, wherein said writing module is capable of modifying said parameter by means of several successive variations of said parameter.

7. (Withdrawn) Adjustment device according to Claim 1, wherein said estimating module is capable of determining a value to be attained for said bit rate of said stream of contents also as a function of a rate of sharing of said capabilities of said receiver, said capabilities being shared between several streams processed in parallel in said receiver.

8. (Previously Presented) Adjustment device according to Claim 1, wherein said input module and estimation module are designed so that said processing capabilities of the receiver comprise at least one criterion of the performance of said receiver chosen from among a data processing speed, a memory volume, an energy consumption and a presence of components dedicated to the processing of said contents.

9. (Previously Presented) Reception terminal wherein it comprises a device for adjusting bit rate in accordance with Claim 1.

10. (Previously Presented) Process for the adjustment of the bit rate of a stream of contents as a function of processing capabilities of at least one receiver, said processing capabilities being the resources of said at least one receiver fit for processing the data received, said contents being transmitted by a sender to said receiver via a network, according to a communication protocol providing for a return transmission of reception data of said contents by said receiver to said sender, said process comprising the following steps :

- a required level for said bit rate is estimated, at least as a function of information relating to said capabilities,

- and stream adjustment cues for return transmission with said reception data to said sender are written, said adjustment cues being capable of bringing about a modification of said bit rate in relation to said required level,

wherein said communication protocol providing for a return transmission to said sender of at least one parameter of the protocol normally targeted at conditions of communication of said contents in said network between said sender and said receiver, said cues are written while modifying said parameter, in such a way as to use it to transmit said adjustment cues,

said adjustment process preferably being intended to be implemented by means of an adjustment device in accordance with Claim 1.

11. (Previously Presented) Process for the adjustment of bit rate according to Claim 10, wherein said network is a point-to-point communication network and the stream of said contents is transmitted continuously.

12. (Previously Presented) A processing device connected to a network, said processing device including a computer program readable medium comprising program code instructions stored thereon for adjusting a bit rate of a stream of contents as a functioning of processing capabilities of at least one receiver, said processing capabilities being the resources of said at least one receiver fit for processing the data received, said contents being transmitted by a sender to said receiver via the network, according to a communication protocol providing for a return transmission of reception data of said contents by said receiver to said sender, said processing device further comprising:

a module for inputting information relating to said capabilities;

a module for estimating a required level for said bit rate, at least as a function of said information;

a module for writing stream adjustment cues for return transmission with said reception data to said sender, said adjustment cues being capable of bringing about a modification of said bit rate in relation to said required level;

wherein said communication protocol provides for a return transmission to said sender of at least one parameter of the protocol normally targeted at conditions of

communication of said contents in said network between said sender and said receiver, said cues are written while modifying said parameter, in such a way as to use it to transmit said adjustment cues.

13. (Previously Presented) Adjustment device according to claim 1, wherein the processing capabilities of said at least one receiver belong to the set of processing capabilities comprising:

- data processing speed;
- memory volume;
- energy consumption; and
- presence of components dedicated to the processing of the contents.